

In the Claims:

- 1-7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented) A host device comprising the system board of claim 13.
9. (Original) The host device of claim 8, wherein the host device is a computer.
10. (Original) The host device of claim 8, wherein the host device is one of the group consisting of a network router, a TV set top box and a mobile device.
- 11-12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently Amended) A system board comprising:
- (a) a connector that includes:
- (i) a first port situated at an outermost exterior **[[edge]]** boundary of the system board and facing outward from said outermost exterior **[[edge]]** boundary, and
- (ii) a second port, ~~substantially functionally identical to said first port and~~ facing inward to an interior of the system board; and
- (b) a peripheral device**[[:]]** operationally connected to said inward-facing port
- (i) ~~that includes a single port for directly operationally connecting said peripheral device to another device,~~

- ~~(ii) — that is directly operationally connected to said inward-facing port by said single port, and~~
- ~~(iii) — that is directly operationally connected to no other device.~~

14-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The system board of claim 13, wherein said peripheral device is electrically connected to the system board only via said inward-facing port.

19-22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The system board of claim 13, wherein said first and second ports are USB ports.

24. (New) The system board of claim 13, wherein said second port is substantially functionally identical to said first port.

25. (New) The system board of claim 13, wherein said peripheral device:

- (i) includes a single port for directly operationally connecting said peripheral device to another device,
- (ii) is directly operationally connected to said inward-facing port by said single port, and
- (iii) is directly operationally connected to no other device.